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TRADEMARK OFFICE JC37

Atty. Docket No.: 25436/1712

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Alan L. Greener, et al.
 Serial No.: 09/894,806
 Filed: June 28, 2001
 Entitled: Room Temperature Stable Competent Cells

Examiner: Marvich, M.
 Group Art Unit: 1636 #12/a
 Conf. No.: 4116
7/16/03

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

2/28/03

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action mailed August 13, 2002 in the above-noted U.S. patent application. Kindly enter the following amendments and remarks.

RECEIVED**FEB 19 2003****In the Specification:****TECH CENTER 1600/2900**

Please amend the specification as follows:

- On page 11, replace the paragraph at lines 24-29 with the following replacement paragraph:

Additional methods of generating competent cells are described in: Kushner, In: *Genetic Engineering: Proceedings of the International Symposium on Genetic Engineering*, Elsevier, Amsterdam, pp. 17-23 (1978); Norgard, et al., Gene 3: 279-292 (1978); Jessee, et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,981,797; and on the world wide web at protocol-online.net/molbio/DNA/transformation.html, the entireties of which are incorporated by reference herein.

In the Claims:

Please replace claims 1, 22, 23 and 57 with amended claims 1, 22, 23 and 57 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for generating storage-stable competent cells, which comprises drying competent cells at a temperature greater than freezing so as to generate storage-

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 02 FC:22N2
 03 FC:22N1